68 districts of 26 States including 2 districts of Assam. Observations made by C&AG in its report in respect of Assam are as under:

(i) State share was not released within 15 days of the release of Central Funds.

(ii) The Programme Officer/BDO did not submit utilization certificate for utilization of at least 60% of funds at their disposal while applying for the next installment.

(iii) While demanding additional funds, the Gram Panchayats did not furnish the report of the Village Monitoring Committee duly approved by the Gram Sabha.

(iv) No cases of diversion and irregular expenditure was found in Assam.

C&AG in his report has recommended that State Government should ensure timely release of their share and issue necessary instructions to ensure that NREGS funds are not diverted or mis-utilized. It has also recommended that in order to guard against any malpractice, the State Government should ensure that the monthly squaring of accounts is regularly conducted.

(b) The Government of Assam has issued instructions to District Programme Coordinators to adhere to the requirements of the NREGA Guidelines for management of NREGA funds. The Government of India closely monitors the release of funds to the States.

Allocation of funds under PMGSY to Assam

377. KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds allocated to Assam under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) from 2001-2009 and percentage of utilisation;

(b) the total length of the road in Kilometer constructed during 2001-2009 district-wise in Assam;

(c) whether there is allegation of misuse of such funds in Assam; and

(d) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Allocation (diesel cess) under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) for Assam is Rs. 1089 crore for the period 2001 to 2009. So far, Rs. 2401.32 crore has been released to Assam under PMGSY including the assistance from Asian Development Bank (ADB). An expenditure of Rs. 2125.80 crore has been reported by the State Government upto December, 2008.

(b) Construction of 5201.86 km. has been completed under PMGSY upto December, 2008 in Assam. For implementation and monitoring of PMGSY, the State is considered as a unit and district-wise details are not maintained by the Ministry. The information in respect of road works taken up under PMGSY are also available on the website ***www.ommas.nic.in.***

(c) and (d) 10 complaints about irregularities in the implementation of PMGSY in Assam have been reported. In 4 cases, National Quality Monitors (NQMs) were deputed for enquiry and their reports have been sent to the State Government for appropriate action. 6 complaints have been sent to the State Government for enquiry and appropriate action as per programme guidelines.

Provision of direct subsidy to farmers

†378. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it is being proposed to provide 'Direct Subsidy' to farmers;

(b) if so, whether land records are being prepared for this purpose; and

(c) the details of procedure being adopted to provide 'Direct Subsidy' to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) No Sir, there is no proposal to provide 'Direct Subsidy' to farmers.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

ARWSP in Rajasthan

379. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) in Rajasthan, is being undertaken with the assistance of Central Government;

(b) the details of such schemes as on today, category-wise and achievements thereof;

(c) the total revised estimates for the above schemes and total Central assistance as on today, category-wise;

(d) whether Rajasthan sought high allocation for completion of the schemes within three years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) is a Centrally Sponsored Programme and is being implemented by Rajasthan. Funds are allocated to the States every year as per the inter-state allocation ratio fixed for the year. The States are competent to approve schemes in conformity with ARWSP Guidelines. Details of Proposals received and cleared by the States are not maintained by Government of India.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.